

# CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

631 South State Street  
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787  
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street  
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687  
iccmarydel.org



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

May 21, 2023

Ascension of the Lord

holy cross

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm  
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

### SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm  
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm  
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8 am

Wednesday – 8:15 am

Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day, MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day)

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 8:30 am – 10:00 am,  
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

### ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am – 9 pm

icc

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm  
Closed Wednesday and Friday

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

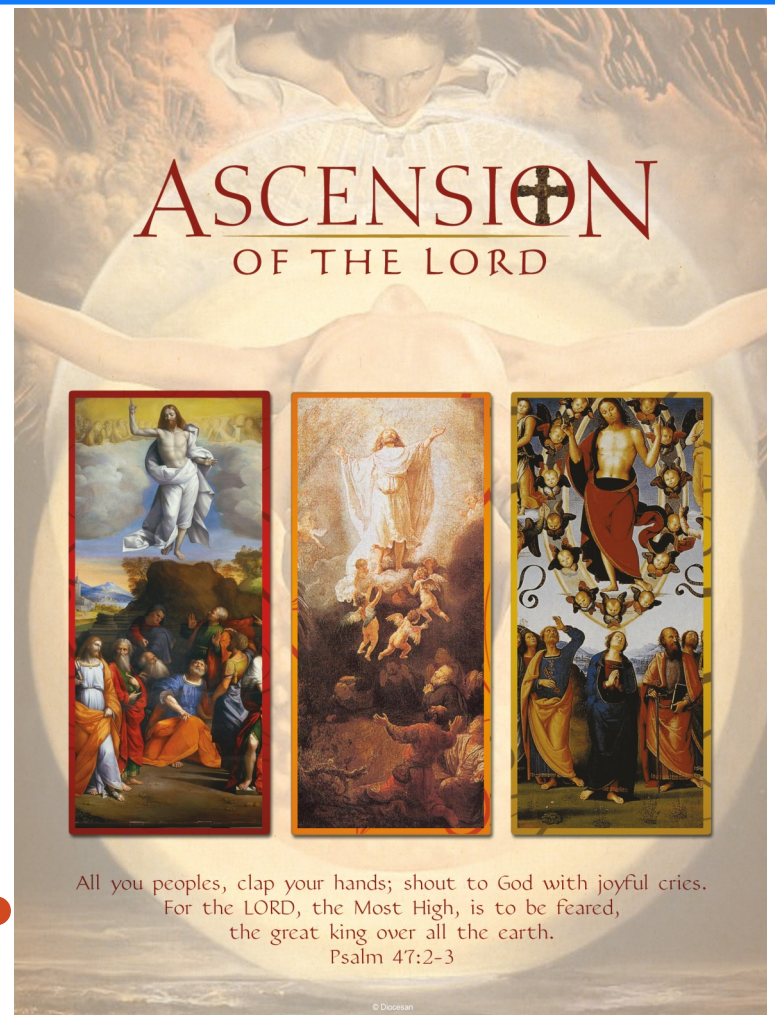
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am  
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 9:30 am  
Thursday, 6:30 pm



### HOLY DAY SCHEDULE (HC AND ICC)

Mary, Mother of God, January 1  
Assumption, August 15  
All Saints' Day, November 1  
Immaculate Conception, December 8  
Christmas, December 25

*Mass schedules for Holy Days of Obligation and other special days will be printed in the bulletin as each one draws near*

## RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

*The seven Sacraments of the Church were instituted by Christ to confer grace.*

**Sacrament of Baptism.** Call the office to register for Parent Pre-Baptismal Instruction. For adults seeking to enter the Church and be Baptized, contact our Religious Education Office.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).** Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for Confession at age seven as part of First Communion preparation.

**Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.** Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for First Communion at age seven. Adults seeking First Communion should contact our Religious Education Office. To request a visitation for Holy Communion to the Sick, contact our parish office.

**Sacrament of Confirmation.** Young people in our parish are prepared for reception of Confirmation in the ninth grade (age 14). Adults seeking Confirmation should contact our Religious Education Office.

**Sacrament of Marriage.** Couples planning for Marriage are to contact a parish priest or deacon one year in advance to set the wedding date and plan for pre-Cana instruction.

**Sacrament of Holy Orders.** If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the Priesthood or Diaconate, please contact one of our parish priests.

**Anointing of the Sick.** For the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, which is administered by a Priest, a person or an immediate family member must make the request. Late night requests may not be able to be answered until the next day.

## CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, May 27th, hear highlights, including Bishop Koenig’s homily, from the May 20th priesthood ordination of Deacon Onyedikachukwu Chibundu John Ene-muo. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at [cdow.org/CatholicForum](http://cdow.org/CatholicForum), or by searching “Catholic Forum” on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, “Like” Catholic Forum on Facebook at [@CatholicForum](http://facebook.com/CatholicForum).

## ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

The Holy Cross Odyssey of the Mind team would like to thank everyone who made their Spaghetti Dinner a huge success. The Holy Cross community was very generous and their generosity is greatly appreciated. Wish us well in Michigan. Good Crusaders!

## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending May 7, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$27,541	\$26,220	\$1,321
YTD	\$1,199,365	\$1,233,620	(\$34,255)
Needs	\$2,009	\$1,604	\$405

## WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending May 7, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,612
Second Collection	\$544

Thank you to all advertisers in our bulletin. We appreciate your support!

If you know of someone who would like to advertise in the bulletin, please contact Diocesan Publications at 800-233-8200.

Dear Parishioners,

A great big congratulations to all of our many Holy Cross children who last weekend made their first Holy Communion. It was a wonderful sight — seeing so many young people coming forward to receive the Lord for the first time. First Communion is a big event in the life of a Catholic child, and a similarly big event in the life of a parish. On the topic of the Eucharist, in last week's Pastor's Column I gave an overview of the general understanding and background on the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. In this issue, I will focus on the essential components of confecting the Sacrament and on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

**Do You Validate?** In the Sacramental theology of the Faith, for any Sacrament to be validly confected, the proper "form" and "matter" must be present. Without the presence of those validating elements, there is no Sacrament — there is no encounter with Christ. In addition to the form and matter, the proper minister (a Priest or Bishop) with the proper intention (the intention of the Church) must likewise be present. Each of these essential elements: form, matter, proper minister, and proper intention will be examined below.

**Heart of the Matter.** The matter of the Sacrament of the Eucharist is bread and wine. And the church is very clear, in Canon Law, in defining the two elements: "The bread must be made of wheat alone .... The wine must be natural wine of the grape and not corrupt" (Canon 924). Moreover, the Church adds that a "quantity of any other substance than wheat" in the bread, renders it invalid for use (meaning the Sacrament of the Eucharist cannot be confected with such bread). In a similar way, the Church says that "wine... cannot be regarded as valid matter, [if] extracted from apples or other fruits, or which is made chemically." Additionally, if there is more water than wine in the mixture, it is equally invalid.

**More than a Form-ality.** Now, that we have cleared up the matter of the matter — which is no trifling matter — let's move onto the proper form of the Sacrament. The form of the Sacrament is the proper minister speaking the "words of institution" over the valid matter; both bread and wine must be present (having only one or the other invalidates the Sacrament). The "words of institution," sometimes called the "words of consecration," are as follows:

- As the priest holds the bread, he says, "Take this all of you and eat of it for this is my body which will be given up for you."
- As the priest holds the chalice filled with wine, he says, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it: for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you

and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me."

**More than Meets the Eye.** These beautiful words are not just some Hallmark Card type, nice-sounding prose. The Church holds that these are the words that Christ spoke at the Last Supper, (i.e., the first Mass). The Church, following the command of Christ to "do this in memory of me," continues to re-present that event which is inextricably connected to His death and resurrection. Following the recitation of these words over the elements (and the Holy Spirit having been invoked previously in the ritual), the bread and wine that the eye still sees (sometimes called the Sacred Species), are, in reality, no more. What is substantially, truly and actually present are the Body, Blood, soul and Divinity of Christ.

**Prim and Proper.** So, with all of the above in mind, one might wonder, "Can't I just get bread and wine and say the word and have the Eucharist in my home?" No! In order for the Eucharist to be confected, the proper minister, a Priest (or Bishop) — one who is ordained to offer Sacrifice — must make the Sacrificial offering. The ordained Priest stands in the person of Christ (*in persona Christe*). Thus when Fr. O'Reilly says, "Take this all of you... this is my body" it is Christ speaking, it is Christ re-presenting the offering of his Body and Blood.

**Magic, Man?** And finally, after having the proper form, proper matter and proper minister, there is one other essential element: The proper minister must also have the proper intention, namely, the intention of the Church. What does that mean? Well, let me tell you about an urban legend from a few years ago — completely untrue, but repeated endlessly. The legend said that some priest in the Midwest went wiggly, and said words of consecration inside a bakery truck and consecrated tons of bread which became the Body of Christ. Further, the urban legend stated, the Church then had to take the truck and reserve it as sort of giant tabernacle until all of the "Eucharist" could be consumed. Oh, where to begin? Let's start with the key point: This never happened. And even if this did happen, no valid consecration would have occurred because the proper minister did not have the intention of the Church.

**Not in the Blink of an Eye.** What do I mean by that? The priest is not to be seen as a variant of Mandrake the Magician or the Great Amazo. He

*(continued on page 10)*

## HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Msgr. Daniel McGlynn	Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Brennan Ferris	Parochial Vicar

## HC CLERGY

Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	Deacon
Mr. Richard Kosior	Deacon
Mr. Robert McMullen	Deacon
Mr. Vincent Pisano	Deacon

## ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell	Deacon
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## HC STAFF

Parish Office	302 674 5787
Jane Green	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
Michele Dornberger	Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., ext. 116
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. 118
Tammy Korosec	CRE Religious Ed, ext 122
Linda Darling	Youth Ministry, ext. 123
Justin Wurzel	Maintenance Director
Len Dornberger	Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135
Michael Perza	Dir. of Music Ministry, 302 698 9302

## MAILING ADDRESS

*Church of the Holy Cross*  
631 S. State St.  
Dover, DE 19901

## ICC STAFF

Parish Office	410 482 7687
Marilyn Dixon	Office Manager
Alicia Poppiti	DRE Religious Ed.
Susan Venezia	Bookkeeper
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry

## MAILING ADDRESS

*Immaculate Conception Church*  
P. O. Box 399  
Marydel, MD 21649-0399

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Catholic Education Pre-K3 to Grade 8  
302 674 5787  
holycrossdover.org/school

Linda Pollitt	Principal, ext. 111
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## MAILING ADDRESS

*Holy Cross School*  
631 S. State St.  
Dover, DE 19901

## ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITY

### The Catechism In a Year

[www.ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear](http://www.ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear)

### Bible in a Year

**In English:** Father Mike Schmitz

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>

**In Spanish:** Fray Sergio Serrano

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-espanol-registration>

## BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Sodality would like to thank all for their participation and donations toward the bake sale and raffle for the Mother's Day baskets. The baskets were won by Audrey Daniels and Sandy Winfrey. Stay tuned for more from Sodality for Father's Day.

## BABY SHOWER THANK YOU

Thank you for your generosity to New Day center. All of the items you have donated reach our clients in many ways. Whether they are given a baby blessing basket, earn items through our E3 Parenting Program or are given an emergency distribution, your donations help our center carry out its mission. I pray you are encouraged by the ways your gifts allow us to walk alongside women and men through their pregnancy and parenting journey. Again thank you all for your prayers for our clients, staff and volunteers and for your continued support!

## RECENT DECEASED

Our condolences to the families of those who recently passed:

- Michael Ozechowski
- Joseph Starzynski
- Edward J. Sienkiewicz

May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

## PENTECOST (MAY 28)

### FIRST READING: ACTS 2:1-11

The Holy Spirit is poured out on the disciples of Jesus. This is the final act in the Easter mystery, which is now complete.

### SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIAN 12: 3-7, 12-13

The apostle Paul reflects on the gifts of the Spirit in the lives of believers and encourages us to play our part, whatever that may be, in building up the life of our community.

### GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-23

The risen Jesus makes himself present to his disciples and commissions them to carry on his work.

## HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

**Attention Gold Star Families.** We would like to acknowledge and honor the sacrifice of your loved one at the Memorial Day Mass on May 29th. Place of interment need not be Holy Cross Cemetery. Please contact Len Dornberger at 302-674-5787 ext. 135 to provide needed information.

### Cemetery News - Memorial Day Weekend

Cemetery Committee members will be in the Gathering Space following all weekend Masses. American flags for our Veterans' graves will be available for \$5. American flags are placed on our Veterans' graves for both Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Nearly 300 flags are placed on each of these holidays. This is the once-a-year opportunity to donate towards the purchase of flags, which, like everything else, continues to increase in price. Your support is greatly appreciated.

In addition to obtaining information about our cemetery, you can find out about ordering monument flower vases, veterans' flag holders, placing an order for an engraved brick paver, and signing up for an appointment call-back from our cemetery administrator.

The annual Memorial Day Mass will be held in the church on Monday, May 29th at 9:00 a.m. As in the past, military veterans are invited to participate in the Mass. Two are needed for the presentation of the wreath, two are needed to present the gifts, one qualified lector is needed as are two qualified Eucharistic ministers. If interested, contact Len Dornberger at 674-5787 x135 and provide your name, daytime phone number and branch of service.

A post-holiday cemetery clean-up will be conducted on Saturday, June 11th. Everything except artificial and live flowers will be removed. Please remove items you wish to keep before then.

## MASS INTENTIONS MAY

### 22 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Mother's Day Novena

### 23 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Louis V. Jara

### 24 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:15 am Wilberto A. Macalalad

### 25 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Julie Anne Stump  
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

### 26 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am DM Maron Family

### 27 SATURDAY

HC 8 am DM Walter & Jozefa Kabzinski Fam  
HC 5:00 pm .M/M Anthony Lomelino (LI)

### 28 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Marianne Gornic  
ICC 8:30 am Veronica Kriss  
HC 9:30 am Saladino Family (LI)  
ICC 11:00 am Teresa Crenshaw  
HC 11:30 am Nancy Holland  
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION  
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

What's the best argument you've ever had with your beloved? You may have felt mad at each other at the time, but what helped you get past the anger or hurt to deepen your love?

## PARENTING POINTERS

It's hard to raise kids these days. Heck, it's always been hard but in different ways in different eras. What do you think was the hardest part of raising a child during your own parents' or grandparents' day? Is it easier or harder now? There's no answer to this, just something to think about.

HOLY CROSS MAY 27/28, 2023

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM D. Kaltenbaugh  
J. Salamone P. Sheldon  
N. Sirolli G. Coyle  
M. Coyle L. Curley

LECTORS

J. Daviws  
D. Dixon

7:30 AM R. O'Neill  
R. Pritchett W. Thomas  
A. Wyllie B. Gyamfi  
E. Gyamfi

LECTORS

K. Meier

9:30 AM S. Lascnoa  
D. McGinnis L. Olmstead  
V. Pepper M. Ford  
E. Ksenich G. Maddalena

LECTORS

C. Petka  
H. Walker

11:30 AM T. Hernandez  
E. Patoriza M. Richard  
TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM J. Tormey, Jr.

LECTORS

G. Godfrey

11:00 AM G. Taraila

LECTORS

S. Tucker

1:00 PM TBD

Homebound Ministry at Holy Cross  
Needs Your Help

Holy Cross is in need of more Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring the Eucharist to the shut ins and those in the nursing homes and hospital. We service so many assisted living places, rehabilitation places, nursing homes, the hospital, and the homebound and do not have enough ministers to lighten the load of those already doing this special ministry.

We will offer one class to train you as an EMHC. We will have you also shadow with someone to make you feel comfortable doing this ministry. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to learn more about this ministry. We need YOUR help!!!

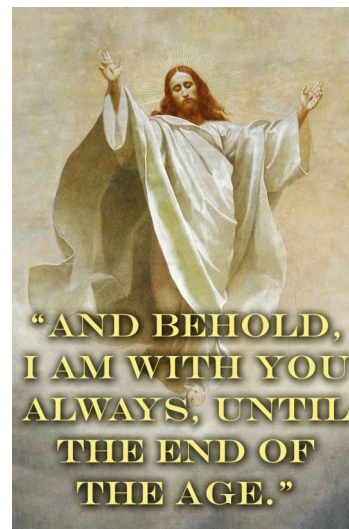
ADORATION CHAPEL (HO)

Can you spare an hour to spend with Jesus? Our Adoration Chapel is open from 5 am to 9 pm Monday through Sunday We have openings where you can spend quality time with Our Lord. Call Joann Pate today at 674-4496 to reserve a time for you.

SUNDAY 7 am, 4 pm, 5pm  
MONDAY 11 am, 5 pm  
TUESDAY 5 am, 6 am, 5 pm, 8 pm  
FRIDAY 8 am  
SATURDAY 5 am, 12 pm, 1 pm,  
2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

MEN OF THE HOLY CROSS (NEW AND MORE CONVENIENT MEETINGS)

It is now easier than ever for you to join the Men of The Holy Cross! You are welcome to come in person or participate from the comfort of your home, sitting in your favorite chair with a cup of coffee. Thanks to our newest innovation (a state of the art "Meeting Owl" which makes you feel like you are there in person), all you need is your smartphone, tablet or computer. Just type in the following link and it will automatically guide you through the Zoom Meeting set up and join our hybrid meeting. <https://zoom.us/j/30861480> Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM You need the ID #83606382292 and pass code 631, for prayer, gospel reflections. Email Steve Balogh with any questions: [stephenb\\_01@yahoo.com](mailto:stephenb_01@yahoo.com).



- **Mayo Mes de María.** Mes de alegría, Nuncio de Paz, Flores para María, Si desea traerle flores a María puede hacerlo. María es nuestra Madre, la madre de todo el mundo y porque se preocupa por todos nosotros, intercediendo incluso en los asuntos más pequeños. Por eso se merece todo un mes en su honor.
- La Virgen peregrina esta visitado casas. Si desea que la imagen de la virgen visite su hogar por una semana por favor de anotarse con la Sra. Martha Espinosa.
- Se les invita a todos a la novena de Corpus Christi comenzando el viernes antes de la Solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad 2 de junio a las 7:00pm en la iglesia. Hasta el día sábado antes de la Solemnidad de Corpus Christi 10 de junio y culminaremos el día domingo 11 de junio con la Santa Misa y la Procesión con Jesús Sacramentado alrededor de los predios de nuestra parroquia. Se les pide a todos los ministros que por favor participen.
- Foro Cristiano Todos los viernes de 6:00 – 8:00 pm en ELC. Venga escuche, participe y aprenda de nuestra
- Fe y como vivirla Con el Padre Brennan Ferris y el seminarista Jon Lenus
- Las inscripciones están abiertas para La Escuela Bíblica de Verano. Es un programa de 1 semana del 10-14 julio de 9:00 AM – 12 PM. Puede inscribirá su hijo(a) entre los 4-12 años de edad antes del 16 de junio. Los cupos son limitados.
- Inscriba a su niño para la Educación Religiosa que ya están abiertas. Las aplicaciones están en línea y el 21 de mayo estarán llenando inscripciones después de la misa.

## ICC RELIGIOUS ED

- **Educación Religiosa:** Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para las clases de Educación Religiosa 2023-2024. Es de suma importancia que inscriba a su hijo ahora, y de esa manera garantizar materiales, catequistas y salón a tiempo. Las donaciones para los materiales es de \$50.00 por niño y \$175.00 por familia
- Si está interesado o conoce a alguien que quiera ser voluntario para ayudar con las clases de Educación Religiosa contacte a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti . Clases comienzan el 24 de septiembre, 2023.
- **Escuela Bíblico de Verano.** “ Stellar” VBS Inscriba a su niño ya desde 31 de julio – 4 de agosto. Es para niños de 4-16 empieza a 6:00pm-8:30pm. Tienen que inscribirse para participar.
- Gracias a todos los que participaron en la limpieza general de los predios de la parroquia.

Congratulations to all 84 First Communicants who received on May 6th or May 13th. We pray that His sacred Body and Blood strengthen you on your journey through life.

Special thanks to the Dover Columbiettes for hosting our reception, Mrs. Kathleen Clougherty for preparing our cakes and Ms. Tiffany Jenkins for providing the photography.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Have a child or children in grades K-8 who need faith formation? Please go to the following link to register for religious education classes.

<https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at either (302) 674-5787 X 122 or email [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org)

## LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

LAFF, Living as a Family of Faith. How is your Faith growing; personally, and as a family? I was once told, "show me a Bible that has not been opened and I'll show you a family falling apart; show me a Bible falling apart, and I'll show you a family living in Faith." Put down the electronics and pick up the Bible and pray together as a family and learn to communicate with God and each other. Learn more about our Faith and the Catholic Church. Understand what "The Source and Summit" of our Catholic Faith is all about. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, sharing our Faith Life experiences. Bring your communications equipment with you: Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. BIBLE!

Interested in enrolling your family in the LAFF program for the 2023-24 school year? Please go to the following link to register for the LAFF program using the religious education form. <https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at either [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

July 10th-14th 2023, for kids ages

PK4-6

9:00AM-12:00PM

### Grades PK4-4

The overall goal of this program is to awaken the hearts and minds of kids to the beauty of God's creation and the dignity of the human person. Kids will learn to discover, respect, protect, serve and celebrate life.

### Grades 5th and 6th

This 1st year program is called



**SAINTS IN TRAINING** Students will be training in 8 different virtues. This is an engaging Catholic program which will help anchor our 5th and 6th graders in their faith to help form our next generation of Saints!

To Register for either program please go to: <https://holycrossdover.org/about-us/headlines/6436-vacation-bible-school-2023>

Registration is due no later than June 16th – Registration is limited! If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787 X 122.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

### Registration for Confirmation 2024:

Forms for registering for Confirmation Preparation Classes may be found on the Holy Cross website under Teaching the Faith - Sacramental Preparation - Confirmation. Please return forms to the Religious Education Office no later than June 30, 2023.

## CATHOLIC HEART CAMP IN DOVER

Catholic Heart Camp will be coming to Holy Cross from June 19 to June 22. Anyone who needs assistance with painting, yard work, light repairs, etc., please call Linda Darling at 302-674-5787, ext. 123, or email her at [ldarling@holycrossdover.org](mailto:ldarling@holycrossdover.org).

## SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**Registration for Religious Education for the 2023-2024 school year** are now open. Please get your children registered now, so that we may plan accordingly.

**Immaculate Conception Invites Children to Stellar VBS: Shine Jesus' Light!**



A summer kids' event called Stellar VBS will be hosted at Immaculate Conception from Monday, **July 31st to Friday, August 4th**. At Stellar, kids discover how they can shine Jesus' love and hope in everyday life! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' light, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Cosmic Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 8:15pm for Cosmic Closing. Stellar is for kids from 4 to 16 and will run from 6pm to 8:30pm each day. For more information, call Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939. Children must be registered to attend.



It could be argued that the Oreo is perhaps America's favorite cookie. First marketed in 1912, it is a popular sidekick to a glass of milk. Sort of like the grilled cheese and tomato soup. Two yummy chocolate cookies with the creamy filling sandwiched in between. A true classic in the American food market.

On a rating scale, the day before and the day following our 2023 Walk-A-Thon both ranked on the negative side of the zero. Rain and cold temperatures caused us to make the decision to "scrub the mission." That's NASA jargon for cancel. Despite fervent prayers, the rains came in and they stayed. That's why God gives us a tomorrow. The tomorrow sandwiched in between the two disagreeable weather days was downright glorious. Sunshine, laughter, Crusader pride, and lots of fun music made for a day filled with joy. But then.....

I think the story is best told by the pictures...because a picture speaks a thousand words.



doesn't twitch his nose or give an "I Dream of Jeannie" blink-of-his-eyes and do a trick. That is not the intention of the Church at Mass. The intention of the Church is that priests consecrate bread and wine to represent, in an un-bloody manner, the Sacrifice of Christ at Calvary making Christ present in our world to nourish us and to be adored. It isn't an act of magic, it is an act of faith.

**Sense and Sense Ability.** "Okay, so, Christ is present: Body, Blood, soul and Divinity. Why then," you may ask, "Do I still see what looks like bread and wine?" A great question! The common simple reply is that Christ is present to us "under the veil" of the Sacrament. He is there, and if you could pull that veil away, you would see the second person of the Blessed Trinity, the Son of God, in his glorified form as he was seen after the resurrection.

**Thomas' Promises.** St. Thomas Aquinas in his hymn "*Pange Lingua*," addresses this issue writing: "*Praestet fides supplementum / Sensuum defectui.*" That Latin phrase, roughly translated to English, states, "Faith provides a supplement / (to compensate for) the defect of our senses." What this means is that in faith we understand the reality of the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist, even though our eyes and our taste buds would tell us it is bread and wine. Aquinas would describe the sight of bread and wine after consecration (aka, the Sacred Species), as an "accident" of appearance. That is, just because it looks like bread and wine, doesn't change what is substantially, actually and truly there: The Real (and abiding) presence of Christ.

**Candy is Dandy.** To put this in clearer terms, I will make an analogy I used in the past with young children making their first communion. It deals with Fred Flintstone. You have probably all seen what are called "Flintstone Vitamins"? These vitamins were developed by a smart pharmaceutical company – they decided that children don't like to take vitamins because, even though they are good for them, they look like medicine. So, that company decided to make their Vitamins in the shape of the cartoon character Fred Flintstone and added a pinch of sugar to the formula. The Vitamin now looked like and tasted like candy. To the eyes and the taste buds, it had all of the properties of candy. And yabba-dabba-doo, the kids liked it and began taking their vitamins without tears, screaming or a big to-do.

**Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing.** What's the point of this tale from Vitamin history? Simply this: As much as a Flintstone Vitamin looks and tastes like candy -- to use New York grammar -- it ain't candy. It is in fact: Potassium Iodide, Pyridoxine Hydrochloride, Vitamin A Acetate, Vitamin B12, Vitamin D3, Vitamin E Acetate, Zinc Sulfate and much, much more. What the eyes see and the senses taste in a Flintstone Vitamin -- namely, candy -- are what St. Thomas Aquinas would call "accidental qualities." The look and the taste are not what that Flintstone Vitamin truly is; it isn't candy. What is really there -- the good stuff -- is hidden to the senses to make the Vitamin more likely to be consumed and understood.

**Who Could It Be Now?** While all analogies break down, and this one is no exception, I think this helps to make the point: Christ makes himself present to us, Body and Blood, soul and Divinity, in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist, under the Sacred Species of bread and wine. While our limited senses can only see the appearance bread and wine, it is not bread and wine that is there at all -- it is Jesus Christ. Under the appearance of bread and wine we are able receive Christ and be nourished by him spiritually and physically in a way that our human nature is able to comprehend.

Thus, in the Eucharist is the real and abiding present of Jesus Christ, whole and entire, made present to us. And frankly, that is something which should all be willing to yabba-dabba-doo about. God bless!

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. James Lentini  
Pastor

*Next Pastor's Column: Part III of this series on the Eucharist -- Mass, Holy Communion and the Eucharist, related to another, but not the same thing.*